

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-3 and 5-12 are presently active in this case, Claims 1, 5, 6-7 and 9-10 having been amended and Claims 11 and 12 having been added by the present amendment.

In the outstanding Official Action, Claims 4, 6 and 10 were objected to because of informalities, Claims 1-3 and 7-9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Bensussan et al (US 4,229,657, hereinafter called "Bensussan"), and Claims 4-6 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were otherwise indicated as including allowable subject matter if rewritten in independent form.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the indication that Claims 4-6 include allowable subject matter. In light of this indication, and to expedite issuance of a patent from the present application, Claim 1 has been amended to include the features of Claim 4 and Claim 4 has been canceled. Claims 1-3 and 5-9 have been further amended to correct the informalities noted in the outstanding Official Action. No new matter has been added. Therefore, in view of the indication of allowable subject matter, Claims 1-3 and 5-9 are believed to be in condition for allowance.

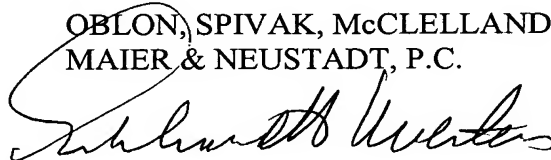
Also submitted herewith are new Claims 11-12. Claim 11 includes features stated in original Claims 1 and 9 and further recites that --a selected pair of electromagnets is energized and the irradiation position on the target of the electron beam is controlled, and after a set time related to the service live of the target has elapsed, another set of electromagnets is energized--, which finds support at page 15, lines 12-17 of the specification. Claim 12 finds support in original Claim 10, for example. No new matter has

been added by the introduction of new Claims 11 and 12. Further, Claims 11-12 are believed to be patentably distinguishing over Bensussan and likewise are believed to be allowable.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment and in light of the above comments, no further issues are believed to be outstanding, and the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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